



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/623,294	07/18/2003	M. Steve Lessley	14120	4116

7590 01/09/2008
MR. DONALD J. BREH
GROUP TECHNOLOGY COUNSEL
ILLINOIS TOOL WORKS INC.
3600 WEST LAKE AVENUE
GLENVIEW, IL 60025-5811

EXAMINER

LAMB, BRENDA A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

1792

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
-----------	---------------

01/09/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/623,294		LESSLEY ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Brenda A. Lamb		1792	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 October 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 14,17-19,22-27,29-31 and 34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 22-27 and 29-31 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 14,17-19 and 34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 14 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mullins et al in view Nakai et al 4,989,799.

Mullins et al teaches the design of a strand coating system, comprising an adhesive dispensing device 11 having an adhesive dispensing orifice 14; a strand guide member (roll shown as being arranged housing 21; a strand axial orientation aligning

member 17 coupled to the adhesive dispensing device, the strand axial orientation aligning member positioned in substantial alignment with the adhesive dispensing orifice, the strand axial orientation aligning member disposed between the strand guide member and the adhesive dispensing orifice, the strand axial orientation aligning member is a pin having an axis extending substantially transverse to an axis along which strand is drawn past the adhesive dispensing device. Mullins et al shows in Figure 2 the strand guide member includes a strand guide member not aligned with the adhesive dispensing orifice and strand axial orientation aligning member. Mullins et al fails to teach the strand axial orientation aligning member is a pin having a recessed side portion. However, it would have been obvious to modify the Mullins et al as discussed above by providing the strand axial orientation aligning member as a pin having a recessed side portion since Nakai et al teaches the design of strand axial orientation aligning member assembly is a pin having a recessed portion which includes a side portion such as shown in Figure 5. With respect to claim 17, Mullins et al aligning member extends parallel to the direction that coating is dispensed from its orifice.

Claims 18-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mullins et al in view of Nakai et al 4,989,799 and Takahashi et al.

Mullins et al Nakai et al are applied for the reasons noted above. Mullins et al fails to teach the strand guide member is coupled to a module. However, it would have been obvious to adjustably couple the Mullins et al continuous length substrate guide member within the module or unit or housing for the coating assembly since Takahashi et al teaches adjustably couple the continuous length substrate guide member within

the module for the obvious advantage of greater control of the process of coating the strand by enabling one to position the strand in and out of contact with the coating head.

Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mullins et al in view Nakai et al 4,989,799 and England et al.

Mullins et al and Nakai et al are applied for the reasons noted above. The use of notch or groove or recessed portion in the side surface of a filament guide is known as exemplified England et al to obviously provide greater control of the direction of travel of the filament. Nakai et al discloses that drop out of the filaments between the guide surfaces of the two parallel rolls 4a', 4b' can be a problem if the length of the two parallel roll 4a', 4b' is insufficient. Therefore, it would have been obvious to modify Mullins et al system by arranging a groove or notch in side surface of its at least one of the strand orienting pin or parallel roll guide surface since England et al shows providing a notch or groove in a filament guide surface for the problem disclosed by Nakai et al of misalignment of the traveling filament or drop out of the traveling filament as the filaments travel through the parallel roll guide surface which would include Mullins et al parallel roll guide surface.

In order to remove Bolyard, Jr 2002/088392 as a reference, applicant needs to submit the Bolyard, Jr 2002/088392 and the instant application were commonly owned **at the time of the invention.**

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bolyard, Jr 2002/088392 in view of Kwok 6,077,375.

Bolyard, Jr teaches in Figure 5 the design of a strand coating system, comprising an adhesive dispensing device having a plurality of adhesive dispensing orifices; a strand axial orientation aligning member 50 coupled to the adhesive dispensing device, the strand axial orientation aligning member having recessed side portions or grooves positioned in substantial alignment or in line with the adhesive dispensing orifices, the strand axial orientation aligning member is a pin having an axis extending substantially transverse to an axis along which strand is drawn past the adhesive dispensing device. The Bolyard, Jr fails to teach a strand guide member as being downstream of the adhesive dispensing device and strand axial orientation aligning member such that strand axial orientation aligning member is disposed between the strand guide member and the adhesive dispensing orifice. However, it would have been prima facie obvious to arrange a strand guide member downstream of the Bolyard, Jr adhesive dispensing device since Kwok teaches arranging a support roller downstream of the applicator for the obvious advantage of facilitating support and travel of the strand downstream of the applicator.

Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

It is unclear how "a pin" set forth at line 2 of claim 17 relates to the pin set forth in independent claim 14.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Billard et al and Holzer et al shows providing notches or grooves

in surfaces of a filament guide to obviously provide greater control of the direction of travel of the filament.

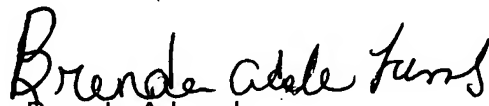
Claims 22-27 and 29-31 are allowed.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brenda A. Lamb whose telephone number is (571) 272-1231. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Friday. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Wednesdays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nadine Norton, can be reached on (571) 272-1465. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Brenda A Lamb
Examiner
Art Unit 1734